Too many steps are necessary to receive e-rate funds and there is always the risk that a 'paper' mistake can cost the library the loss of funding. I imagine the bureaucracy that is in place to deal with all these forms etc. eats into the funds also. Since it is based on school lunch eligibility, why not give the funding directly to the libraries based on that criteria (or other low income criteria) and trust them to use the money correctly. There can always be an audit component.